

on account thereof, that the editor of this valuable journal will assist, by informing the honourable members of Parliament that the millions of sufferers, and architects in general, will thank them if they will take this matter into consideration, and grant a liberal premium to the individual who discovers the laws or rules, by which fire-places may be constructed without mistakes, and the chimneys remain without disfigurement.

If the honourable M.Ps. consider the dangerous action of the smoky atmosphere in apartments, and the indisputable fact, that thousands of females of delicate health suffer and die on account of the bad atmosphere in their apartments, while the individuals themselves and their medical advisers do not perceive the least sign of the dangerous effluvia, they will be satisfied that the matter deserves consideration.

A society of physicians has discovered the above-mentioned dangerous secret action of impure air in apartments, and has reported the facts to their Government.

A nobleman, or gentleman, of large fortune, desirous of benefiting the millions, might meet with success in offering a trifle for the discovery of the above-mentioned science, and would erect for himself a monument in every country in the known world, because the evil is to be found in all civilized countries, and in all situations on the globe.

I am a friend of improvements, through which the health and comfort of the millions may be heightened, and

I am, Sir, your humble servant,  
A LOVER OF SWEET AIR.

### Miscellanea.

**STATUE OF THE DUKE OF SUSSEX.**—The model from which the marble statue of the late Duke of Sussex, which will be erected in the Great Hall of the Freemasons, attached to the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, Long-acre, has been completed by Mr. Baily, R.A., and is now in his studio, in Percy-street. It represents the late Grand Master of the brethren with the decorations of the Garter and the Bath, and in the robes of a knight,—this gives a dignity to the figure, which modern costume alone could not have conferred, and is better than the adoption of Roman or Greek draperies, which would have been inconsistent and incongruous. The figure is of the heroic size, standing about seven feet and a half in height. The great merit is the felicitous representation of character. The features, the figure, the attitude, are all expressive of the character of the original, and, as far as portraiture is concerned, the likeness is perfect. There is also an appearance of life. Stiffness has been avoided without detracting from dignity, and there is an ease and freedom in the outline, which gives as much grace to the figure as is compatible with the fact. Perhaps this is one of Mr. Baily's best statues; it is worth a hundred of the absurdities which have of late been put forth, and will make English art somewhat more respected than most of the strange productions, which have created more amusement at their absurdity, than admiration at their merits.—*Times*.

**MONUMENT TO THE EARL OF LEICESTER.**—A monument to the memory of the Earl of Leicester has just been completed at Mr. Hall's marble works, Derby. It consists of a mass of sculptured Gothic tracery, forming a cinque-foil arch, resting on buttresses and columns, and open foliage capitals, and surmounted by a pediment and pinnacles, ornamented with panels, crockets, &c. Within the niche formed by the columns and arch, stands a massive tablet containing an inscription, with the capital letters illuminated alluding to his pablic conduct as a representative for fifty-seven years of the county of Norfolk, his generosity as a landlord, and skill and enterprise as an agriculturist.

**NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.**—The committee appointed to inspect and report on works of decorative art have recommended the specimens of ornamental metal work sent in by Messrs. Messenger and Sons (Birmingham), Messrs. Bramah and Co., and Mr. Abbott, as the best exhibited by the persons who are desirous of being employed in the embellishment of the Houses of Parliament.

**CURIOUS OLD HOUSE.**—Among the various buildings in West-street, formerly called Chick-lane, now about to be pulled down for the Clerk-well improvements, is a house, supposed to have been built at least 300 years ago, once known as the Red Lion Tavern, but for the past century used as a lodging-house, and the known resort of thieves and the lowest grade of the frail sisterhood. It is situated on the west side of the Fleet River, now called the Fleet Ditch, and used as a common sewer; and from its remarkable adaptation as a hiding-place, with its various means of escape, it is well deserving a visit of the curious. Its dark closets, trap-doors, sliding panels, secret recesses, and hiding places, no doubt rendered it one of the most secure places for robbery and murder. It was here that a chimney-sweep, named Jones, who escaped out of Newgate about three years since, was so securely hidden, that although the house was repeatedly searched by the police, he was never discovered, till it was divulged by one of its inmates, who incautiously observing that he knew whereabouts Jones was concealed, was taken up and remanded from time to time as an accessory to his escape; but when at last tired of prison fare and prison discipline, pointed out the place to obtain his own liberty. He was concealed by parting off a portion of a cellar with brickwork well besmeared with soot and dirt, to prevent detection. This cell, or more properly den, is about 4 feet wide by 9 in depth; and during Jones's incarceration therein he had food conveyed to him through a small aperture, by a brick or two being left out next the rafters. It was here, about seven years since, that a sailor was robbed, and afterwards slung naked through one of the convenient apertures in the wall, into the sewer, for which two men and a woman were transported for fourteen years. A skull and numerous human bones have been found in the cellars, some of which have been taken away by Mr. Taylor, the police medical officer. On one occasion, though the premises were surrounded by seven police officers, a thief made his escape by its communications with the adjoining houses, which were all let out to the lowest characters. Numerous parties daily visit the premises, among whom have been many of the police and county magistrates.

**WESTMINSTER BRIDGE.**—The following is the report of the select committee appointed to inquire into the present state of Westminster-bridge, and into the expediency of continuing the present expenditure thereon, or of erecting a new bridge on or near the site thereof, and also into the amount of the bridge estates, and the liabilities thereon; with power to report their opinion, together with the minutes of evidence taken before them, to the House:—"That on a review of the whole of the evidence, no case has been made out to justify the committee in recommending to the House the pulling down the present bridge and the constructing a new one. That it is desirable that the inclination of the roadway over the bridge be improved by lowering its summit and raising its extremities. That the parapets of the bridge be lowered as much as is practicable and consistent with safety.

**METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENTS.**—On Monday, by direction of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, workmen were employed in making the excavations for the new sewer which is to pass down the centre of the street that is to connect Holborn with Oxford-street, and which will be about 2,000 feet in length, the new street being about 1,800 feet long. It is expected that this will take about six weeks to complete, and when finished the new roadway will be carried out as fast as possible. In a few days, on the houses in Holborn being removed, there will be a clear view of Oxford-street from Holborn.

**DUNROBIN CASTLE.**—Large additions are to be made to this ancient and weather-beaten pile, whose proud battlements have for ages bid defiance to the storm, and repelled the ruthless invaders of the olden times. Much as we venerate the gray towers of this feudal keep, we readily admit that modern elegance and splendour will form an agreeable contrast to the rough old grandeur of the castle. Quarrying stones for the buildings is already in progress, and a number of unemployed hands will be benefitted by the work necessary to complete the buildings.

**NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART IN SCOTLAND.**—A meeting of citizens was held on Thursday night in the Café Royal, to consider a proposal which embraced the double idea of completing the structure of the National Monument on the Calton Hill, and of rendering it a receptacle for works of high art; of making it, in fact, a gallery of the fine arts in Scotland. The Lord Provost was called to the chair. Mr. D. R. Hay explained the scheme, which was in substance that an association should be formed similar to those already known in the country as art-unions; but that the funds so raised should be devoted, the one half to the completion of the monument, the other half to the purchase of works of high art; which, instead of being ballotted for by the subscribers, should be deposited in the gallery to be established in the National Monument. Resolutions carrying out this view were moved and seconded; and a committee was suggested to carry the resolutions into effect.—*Edinburgh Observer*.

### Current Prices of Materials.

July 30, 1844.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
<b>COPPER</b> —Brit. Cask, p. ton	83	0	0	84	0	0
Tile	82	0	0	83	0	0
Sheet, p. lb.	0	4	0	0	9	4
Bottoms	0	0	0	0	0	0
Old	0	0	0	0	0	8
South Amer., ton	0	0	0	72	0	0
Foreign Cask	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tile	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>IRON</b> , British	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bars	6	0	0	6	5	0
Rods	0	0	0	7	0	0
Hoops	8	0	0	8	10	0
Sheets	0	0	0	9	0	0
Cargo in Wales, Bars	0	0	0	5	10	0
Pigs No. 1, Wales	3	10	0	4	0	0
No. 1, Clyde	0	0	0	3	0	0
Russian, cask	16	0	0	16	10	0
psi	0	0	0	0	0	0
Archangel	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swedish	9	10	0	10	0	0
Goureeff's	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>LEAD</b> —British, Pig, p. ton	16	10	0	17	0	0
Sheet, milled	0	0	0	17	15	0
Bars	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shot, patent	0	0	0	19	15	0
Red or Minium	0	0	0	21	10	0
White	0	0	0	23	10	0
Litharge	0	0	0	20	0	0
Pig, Spanish	0	0	0	16	10	0
American	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>STEEL</b> —English	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swedish Keg	0	0	0	16	0	0
Faggot	0	0	0	16	10	0
<b>TIN</b> —In blocks, p. cwt.	0	0	0	3	13	0
Ingots	0	0	0	3	13	0
In Bars	0	0	0	3	14	0
Banca	3	4	0	3	5	0
Straits	0	0	0	3	3	0
Peruvian	2	17	0	3	0	0
Plates, p. box, 22½ shts.—						
No. I. C. 13½ by 10 in.	1	7	6	1	13	0
I. X.	1	13	6	1	19	0
I. XX.	0	0	0	0	0	0
IXXX.	182	lb.		2	9	0
IXXXX.	203			2	15	0
No. II. C. 13½ by 9½ in.	105			1	9	0
II. X.	133			1	15	0
III. C. 12½ by 9½ in.	98			1	7	0
III. X.	126			1	18	0
SDC	167			2	13	0
SDX	188			2	19	0
SDXX	209			2	15	0
SDXXX	230			3	11	0
SDXXXX	251			3	17	0
C. 16½ by 12½ in.	98			1	7	0
X.	126			1	13	0
XX	147			2	19	0
XXX	168			2	19	0
XXXX	189			2	11	0
Jaggars, 14 by 10 in.	—			0	0	0
<b>SPELTER</b> —On the spot, ton	0	0	0	21	10	0
Delivery	21	5	0	21	10	0
<b>ZINC</b> , English Sheet	0	0	0	30	0	0
<b>PLATINA ORE</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>ORSEW</b>	0	0	0	3	0	0
<b>QUICKSILVER</b>	0	0	0	0	4	6

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

If the correspondent who favoured us with the sketches of Ardross Infirmary, will favour us with his address, we shall transmit to him proof of the cuts, which we have had executed.